

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 10, 2010

Rt Hon Alex Salmond MSP
First Minister of Scotland
St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH13DG
T: 0845 7741741

Dear First Minister Salmond,

We have received your responses to our previous letters and appreciate your willingness to answer additional questions. Based on new reports that have raised such additional questions, we are writing today to ask for the release of all medical documentation for Abdelbaset Ali Mohmed al-Megrahi while under Scottish care and after. We are hopeful you will be able to help and look for your assistance in fulfilling this important request.

We understand that an extensive medical record was used as the basis of the decision to release Mr. al-Megrahi, but only one three-page medical document with redactions has been released by the Scottish government. Independent examination of Mr. al-Megrahi's complete medical record is necessary in order to understand the circumstances surrounding his compassionate release. As you know, this matter is of the utmost importance to many Americans, especially the families of the 189 American victims aboard Pam Am Flight 103.

If permission from Mr. al-Megrahi is required for the Scottish government to release personal medical documents, we respectfully ask that the Scottish government request his permission to release these records and the monthly updates on his condition that he provides Scottish authorities.

In addition, we request that the Scottish government release the full names, medical training and specialization of all of the doctors who examined Mr. al-Megrahi, as well as the details about each doctor's role in the final medical assessment. Without full information about the medical specialists involved in the decision, it is impossible to evaluate and understand the basis for the compassionate release decision.

It is clear that there was no consensus among specialists treating al-Megrahi's prostate cancer that he had only three months to live.¹ The medical progress report from August 10, 2009² reveals that "whether or not prognosis is more or less than 3 months, no specialist 'would be willing to say.'" The lack of consensus and clarity from any of the specialists involved is very troubling, especially the lack of confidence on the part of the treating oncologist, who was the most qualified to assess the worsening of Mr. al-Megrahi's condition.

¹ The Wall Street Journal, August 6, 2010. "Lockerbie Release Flawed: Scotland Lacked Medical Consensus in Returning Convicted Bomber to Libya."

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703748904575411493838838982.html?mod=ITP_pageone_0

² Abdelbaset Ali Mohmed Al Megrahi medical documentation. August, 2009.
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/925/0085337.pdf>

In Mr. al-Megrahi's compassionate release application in July 2009,³ under the section "Treatment," he reported that he had recently consulted with an oncologist about undertaking a course of palliative chemotherapy. However, the official Scottish medical summary has no reference to chemotherapy. A more complete medical record may help us understand exactly what Mr. al-Megrahi's treatment options were and thereby help clarify questions about his prognosis.

Thank you again for your cooperation and your ongoing assistance on this vitally important matter.

Sincerely,



ROBERT MENENDEZ
United States Senator



KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND
United States Senator



FRANK R. LAUTENBERG
United States Senator



CHARLES SCHUMER
United States Senator

³ Abdelbaset Ali Mohmed Al Megrahi Application under Section 3 of the Prisoners and Criminal Proceedings (Scotland). Act 1993. <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/925/0085335.pdf>